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THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

National Intelligence Council

DDI #6246-82

30 July 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence
Deputy Director of Central Intelligence

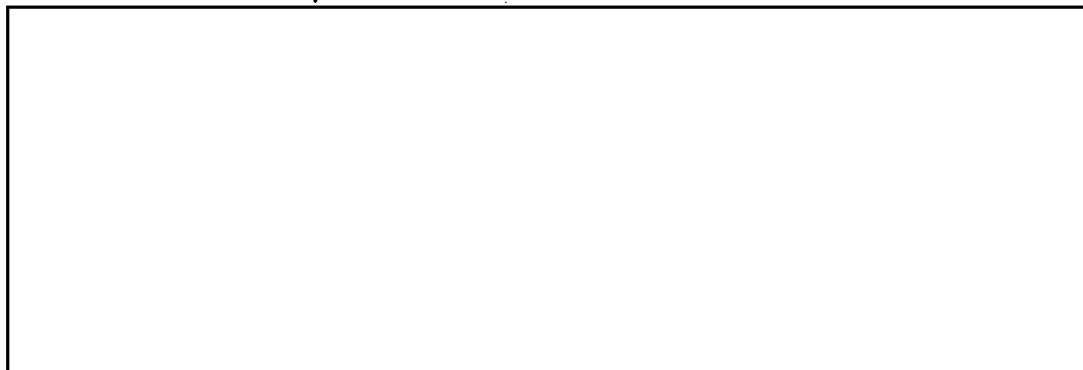
FROM : [REDACTED]
National Intelligence Officer for Warning

SUBJECT : NIO Monthly Warning Assessments: July

1. The reports on the NIO warning meetings are attached.
2. Comments on warning situations.

a. Lebanon:

(1) Although the Begin government remains skeptical about the prospect of an acceptable agreement on the withdrawal of Palestinian forces from West Beirut, it apparently continues to defer a decision to launch a major ground assault because of concern over the domestic and international consequences.



b. Iran-Iraq:

(1) If the third phase of Iran's offensive fails to break through Iraqi defenses northeast of Al Basrah, the

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Khomeini regime may create a diversion by sharply increasing pressure on Kuwait and other Gulf states to end their assistance to Iraq.

c. South Africa-Angola:

(1) The South African military buildup in northern Namibia and southern Angola probably signals another major incursion into Angola similar to the offensive last August-September. Although the South Africans may be trying to enhance their leverage in negotiations on Namibia prior to their deadline for an agreement by mid-August, major cross-border operations could trigger a military escalation if the Cubans are prepared to risk greater involvement in supporting Angolan resistance to South African forces.

d. Nicaragua-Honduras:

(1) The Nicaraguans are laying the political groundwork for retaliatory strikes against anti-Sandinista rebel bases in Honduras. The Hondurans have warned that they will launch preemptive airstrikes if they believe a Nicaraguan attack is imminent.

(2) There is a serious chance that direct clashes between Nicaraguan and Honduran forces will fuel a rapid military escalation. This contingency would create new opportunities for a sharp increase in the Cuban presence in Nicaragua and possibly for an upsurge in Soviet military assistance.



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